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## TELECOPY

PLEASE DELIVER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

DATE: March 2, 2004

TO: Official of Initial Patent Examination

FROM: Greg Gronholm

In re: Branch

Appl. No. 10/720,023

Filed: Nov. 19, 2003

For: ORTHOTIC APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR USING SAME

Enclosed for filing is Applicant's Request for Corrected Filing Receipt, a copy of the filing receipt, and a copy of the first page of Applicant's original specification showing correct priority.

NO. OF PAGES:  
(Including cover page)

5

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FAX NUMBER: 703 746 9195

CLIENT/MATTER: 45011-271086

REQUESTED BY: Elaine Graham x4569

VOICE NUMBER:

Alston & Bird

Attorney's Docket No. 45011-271086

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:	Branch	Confirmation No.:	3205
Appl No.:	10/720,023	Group Art Unit:	3743
Filed:	November 19, 2003	Examiner:	L. Hamilton
For:	ORTHOTIC APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR USING SAME		

February 26, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
Office of Initial Patent Examination  
Customer Service Center  
Washington, DC 20231

APPLICANT'S REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

Sir:

In reviewing the Filing Receipt for the above referenced application, attached hereto as Exhibit A, Applicant notes that an error appears as noted on the copy of the Filing Receipt. Specifically, the second priority information as referenced in the Cross-Reference to Related Applications filed in the original application has been omitted from the Domestic Priority Data on the Official Filing Receipt. A copy of the first page of Applicant's originally filed specification claiming such priority is attached as Exhibit B.

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office of Initial Patent Examination at facsimile number 703 746 9195 on the date shown below.

  
Elaine Graham

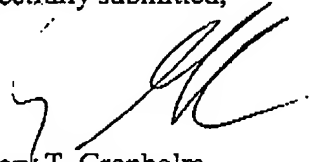
3-2-04  
Date

Appl. No. 10/720,023

Applicant requests that a corrected Filing Receipt be issued to include the full priority data as claimed in Applicants' original specification as follows:

This application claims priority of provisional patent application no. 60/096,105 filed August 10, 1998, and provisional patent application no. 60/096,104 filed August 10, 1998 and provisional patent application no. 60/095,952 filed August 10, 1998, and is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/779,329 filed February 8, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,



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## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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## FILING RECEIPT

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Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

## Applicant(s)

Thomas P. Branch, Atlanta, GA;

## Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of 09/779,329 02/08/2001 PAT 6,669,660

## Foreign Applications

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PCT/US99/18074 08/10/1999

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 02/20/2004

Projected Publication Date: To Be Determined - pending completion of Missing Parts

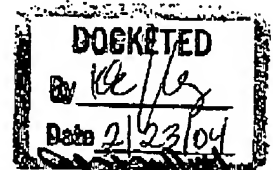
Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

## Title

Orthotic apparatus and method for using same

## Preliminary Class



5

## ORTHOTIC APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR USING SAME

### Related Applications

10 This application claims priority of provisional patent application No. 60/096,105 filed August 10, 1998; and provisional patent application No. 60/096,104 filed August 10, 1998, and provisional patent application No. 60/095,952 filed August 10, 1998, and is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/779,329 filed February 8, 2001. The present application claims the benefit and  
15 priority of all applications noted above, which are incorporated in their entirety hereby by reference.

### Technical Field

20 This invention relates generally to orthotic devices and more particularly to orthotic devices designed to promote an increase in range of motion in a joint by the use of selectively inflatable and deflatable bladders.

25

### Background of the Invention

When a joint is injured either by trauma or by surgery scar tissue can form which prevents full range of motion of that joint. Obviously, this is a disadvantageous condition and should be  
30 corrected if possible. Often, such correction involves an attempt by the injured or those assisting the injured to gradually (often over a period of months) manipulate the joint so that full range of motion is eventually achieved.

35 Full range of motion of a joint depends upon the anatomy of that joint and on the particular genetics of each individual. Typically, joints move in two directions, flexion and extension. Typically, flexion is to 'bend the joint and extension is to straighten the joint; however, in the orthopedic convention some joints only flex. For example, the ankle has dorsiflexion and plantarflexion. Other joints  
40 not only flex and extend, they rotate. For example, the elbow joint has supination and pronation, which is rotation of the hand about the longitudinal axis of the forearm placing the palm up or the palm down.

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